

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198902572**

Piper PA32-RT300T

20 August 1989

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198902572 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: "East Mullane" 60Km NW of Walgett NSW

Date: 20 August 1989 **Time:** 1220

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	4
Total	0	0	0	5

Aircraft Details: Piper PA32-RT300T

Registration: VH-HVG

Serial Number: 32R-7887194

Operation Type: Private

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: "East Mullane" NSW

Departure Time: 1220

Destination: Bankstown NSW

Approved for Release: 6th November 1989

Circumstances:

The aircraft was taking off towards the north, into an estimated 8-10 knot headwind, from a strip surrounded by light scrub and trees. Shortly after lift-off the pilot said the aircraft began to sink, the stall warning horn sounded and the airspeed rapidly decreased by at least 10 knots. He said he considered the aircraft would not be able to outclimb trees ahead and therefore aborted the take-off. The aircraft was placed back onto the strip but could not be prevented from overrunning the end and colliding with small trees. The circumstances of the accident are considered to be consistent with the effects of low level windshear resulting from the shielding effect of the trees upwind of the strip. This accident was not the subject of a formal on scene investigation.

Significant Factors:

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. It is probable that low level windshear, caused by trees at the upwind end of the strip, existed during the takeoff attempt.
2. Pilot inexperience.
3. Pilot encountered conditions beyond his capability.